

Consumer Reportsâ€™ readers rate AT&T as the worst wireless provider in the nation, ranking dead last in every category â€“ dropped calls and voice quality, email and Internet, even customer service.

So why should we allow AT&T to swallow T-Mobile and control more Americansâ€™ cell phones than any other company in the nation? Havenâ€™t we been down this road before?

We need more competition in the wireless market, not less!

The FCCâ€™s job is to make sure that Americans can choose from several competitors for wireless service. But by knocking T-Mobile out of the game, AT&T and Verizon will dominate, controlling 80 percent of our wireless phone market! That will inevitably lead to higher prices, worse service and less innovation. Perhaps you remember when AT&T was the only choice in America for phone service.

Here is a list of who loses, in my opinion, in this deal:

Consumers. The biggest losers of this deal are going to be the consumers. While AT&T and T-Mobile are going to try to spin it as a good deal to combine wireless spectrum assets, the fact is, T-Mobile USA is now out of the market.

T-Mobile USA has been fairly aggressive in offering cheaper voice and data plans as it has tried to compete with its larger brethren. The competition has kept the prices in the market low enough. This has worked well for U.S. consumers. With the merger of AT&T and T-Mobile, the market is now reduced to three national players: AT&T, Verizon and Sprint. Net-net, U.S. consumers are going to lose.

Phone Handset Makers. Before the merger was announced, the handset makers such as HTC and Motorola had two major carriers who could buy their GSM-based phones. They just lost any ability to control price and profits on handsets because now there is a single buyer that can dictate what GSM phones come to market. Even with LTE becoming the standard for the 4G world, it would essentially be a market dominated by three buyers (should Sprint go with LTE), which would place handset makers at the mercy of the giants.

Sprint. The nationâ€™s third-largest carrier was in talks to buy T-Mobile according to Bloomberg, but AT&Tâ€™s offer has now pushed Sprint to the bottom of the pile in terms of size and potentially spectrum assets if it goes through. If it doesnâ€™t go through, then Sprint now has a price it has to match in order to get its hands on T-Mobile. Plus, Sprint and T-Mobile often stood against AT&T and Verizon on a variety of regulatory issues, so if AT&T succeeds, Sprint will stand alone on special

access and other issues.

Network Equipment Suppliers. The carrier consolidation has proved to be a living hell for companies that make infrastructure network equipment. Alcatel-Lucent, along with Ericsson and Nokia Siemens, are suppliers of gears to both AT&T and T-Mobile USA. With a single customer, they will lost ability to control their own fate and are going to see their profits suffer as a result.

Google. I think the biggest loser in this could be Google. In T-Mobile, it has a great partner for its Android OS-based devices. Now the company will be beholden to two massive phone companies " Verizon and AT&T " who are going to try to hijack Android to serve their own ends.

Don't be surprised if you see AT&T impose its own will on what apps and service are put on its Android smartphones. I wouldn't be surprised to see the worst phone company in the U.S. (according to Consumer Reports) tries to create its own app store and force everyone to buy apps through it.

It doesn't matter how you look at it; this is just bad for wireless innovation, which means bad news for consumers. T-Mobile has been pretty experimental and innovative: It has experimented with newer technologies such as UMA, built its own handsets and has generally been a more consumer-centric company. AT&T, on the other hand, has the innovation of a lead pencil and has the mentality more suited to a monopoly: a position it wants to regain.

More competition in the wireless market means more innovation, lower prices and better service for consumers like me. That is why I urge you to reject AT&T's takeover of competitor T-Mobile. This mega-merger will leave only two companies controlling 80 percent of the wireless market (AT&T and Verizon), and leave me with little to no choice when I want to shop around for wireless service.

If AT&T and T-Mobile are allowed to merge, I expect both service and pricing to suffer. And with AT&T controlling some 130 million customers, its huge market share will allow it to block innovations on its networks from other wireless competitors.

AT&T was recently rated the worst wireless provider in a Consumer Reports survey, and T-Mobile was not far behind. In fact, AT&T was ranked the worst in every category, from dropped calls, to data plans to customer service. Combining two big companies that already provide poor service into one giant company mean consumers will ultimately suffer.

T-Mobile also charges less than the other major competitors for several of its plans. If this merger is allowed, its more than likely that T-Mobile customer will see their rates get jacked up to the levels that AT&T charges once their contracts expire. That's not fair.

Your job is to ensure a competitive, fair and innovative wireless market for American consumers. The FCC failed last year to find that the current wireless market was competitive; this merger will make that situation much worse. Please reject the AT&T takeover of T-Mobile, and support an open, fair and competitive wireless marketplace.